Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /069 W

-----010783 070405Z /63

R 052134Z APR 78 FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8790 INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES AMEMBASSY LA PAZ AMEMBASSY LIMA USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MILI, CI

SUBJ: CHILEAN DEFENSE MINISTRY UPDATES CALL-UP ROSTER

1. THE CHILEAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE APRIL 4 ORDERED ALL CHILEAN CITIZENS WITH PRIOR MILITARY EXPERIENCE BORN BETWEEN 1947 AND 1956 TO RE-REGISTER AT THE NEAREST RECRUITMENT CENTER. CHILEAN MALES BORN IN 1957 THRU 1959 ARE PRESENTLY SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES OR HAVE VALID DEFERMENT. CHILEAN OFFICIALS CHARACTERIZED THIS REGISTRATION ORDER AS A ROUTINE UPDATING OF THEIR SELECTIVE SERVICE FILES, LAST UNDERTAKEN A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO. AT LEAST 100,000 PEOPLE ARE ESTIMATED TO BE IN THIS POOL.

2. THE GOC SEEMS TO BE DOING THE SAME THING ABROAD.
ACCORDING TO A US CITIZEN RESIDENT IN LIMA, HIS
CHILEAN DOMESTIC, WHO HAD BEEN A MILTARY NURSE,
RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HER EMBASSY. THE EMBASSY
ASKED HER TO CONFIRM HER ADDRESS AND REMINDED HER OF
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THE OBLIGATION TO RETURN TO HER POST SHOULD SHE BE CALLED UP.

3. COMMENT: THE RE-REGISTRATION ORDER HAS CAUSED SOME STIR. AN ARGENTINE EMBASSY SOURCE TOLD US THAT HIS MILITARY ATTACHES MET HASTILY TO ASSESS THE GOC'S MOTIVATIONS AND CONCLUDED THAT IT WAS A RESPONSE TO

SOME OF BANZER'S RECENT STATEMENTS. THAT MAY HAVE SERVED AS THE PRETEXT. BUT WE BELIEVE IT IS MOTIVATED AT LEAST AS MUCH, AND PROBABLY MORE, BY GOC SECURITY CONCERNS VIS-A-VIS CHILE'S TWO MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT NEIGHBORS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ARMED FORCES, CONSCRIPTION, ENLISTMENT

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 05 apr 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANTIA02518
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780150-0033 Format: TEL From: SANTIAGO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780489/aaaacxyh.tel

Line Count: 68 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 63fcedb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 07 jul 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3064864 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CHILEAN DEFENSE MINISTRY UPDATES CALL-UP ROSTER

TAGS: MILI, CI To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/63fcedb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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